

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DAMASC 04131 010949Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 /030 W
-----021136 011104Z /23

R 010831Z JUL 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3740
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 4131

ATHENS FOR RTDO; BRUSSELS FOR STATE OFFICES

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BENC, SY
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TRADE OPPORTUNITY: CONSTRUCTION OF NEW CITY
CENTER OF ALEPPO: MAJOR PROJECT

1. PRIVATE BUSINESS SOURCE HAS INFORMED EMBASSY OF PLAN
BY MUNICIPALITY OF ALEPPO (SYRIA'S SECOND LARGEST CITY,
POP. APPROX. ONE MILLION) TO CONSTRUCT A NEW CITY CENTER
IN BAB EL-FARAZ DISTRICT. DEMOLITION OF EXISTING STRUCTURES
UNDER WAY. PROJECT WOULD ENCOMPASS 100,000 SQ.M.
(PLUS 30,000 SQ.M. UNDERGROUND PARKING), INCLUDING
HOUSING AND OFFICE BLOCKS, COMMERCIAL STORES, TWO HOTELS,
BANKS, AND CINEMAS. APPROX. COST 250,000,000 DOLS. NO
FORMAL TENDER HAS BEEN LET, AND AS FAR AS WE KNOW, THERE
IS NO TENDER BOOK; MUNICIPALITY DOES HAVE MASTER PLAN
FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO WHICH PROPOSALS MUST CONFORM.

2. MUNICIPALITY INVITES INTERESTED FOREIGN FIRMS TO
CONSIDER PROJECT ON TURNKEY BASIS, INCLUDING
DESIGN, EXECUTION, AND FINANCING. US FIRMS SHOULD
COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH AHMED ISMAIL, GOVERNOR OF
ALEPPO, OR ENG. AHMAD MOUSSA, DIRECTOR OF TECHNICAL
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PAGE 02 DAMASC 04131 010949Z

COMMITTEE, MUNICIPALITY OF ALEPPO, ALEPPO, SYRIA, WITH
COPIES OF CORRESPONDENCE TO U.S. EMBASSY DAMASCUS.

3. EMBASSY COMMENT: CITY OF ALEPPO HAS COMMITTED ITS
PRESTIGE TO THIS MAJOR DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, DESPITE
ACUTE SHORTAGE OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE. DEMOLITION
WORK IS WELL UNDER WAY AND VAST SPACES HAVE BEEN

TORN OPEN IN THE HEART OF THE OLD CITY (SITE OF PROJECT).
FINANCING IS KEY TO SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION OF OFFERS.
WE UNDERSTAND THE MUNICIPALITY ENGAGED IN LONG AND ULTIMATELY
UNSUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS WITH KUWAIT TO UNDERWRITE
PROJECT.
PELLETREAU

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 01-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977DAMASC04131
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